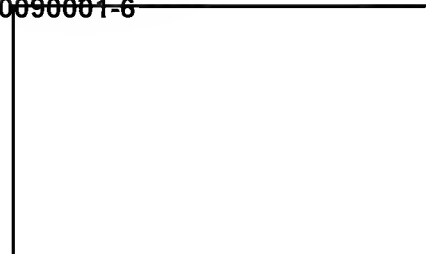




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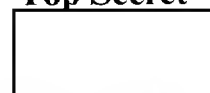


National Intelligence Daily

Saturday
10 February 1979

State Dept. review completed

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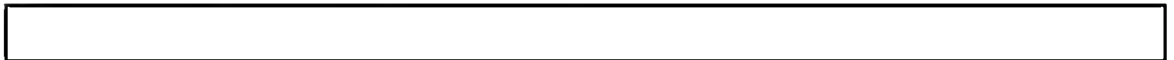
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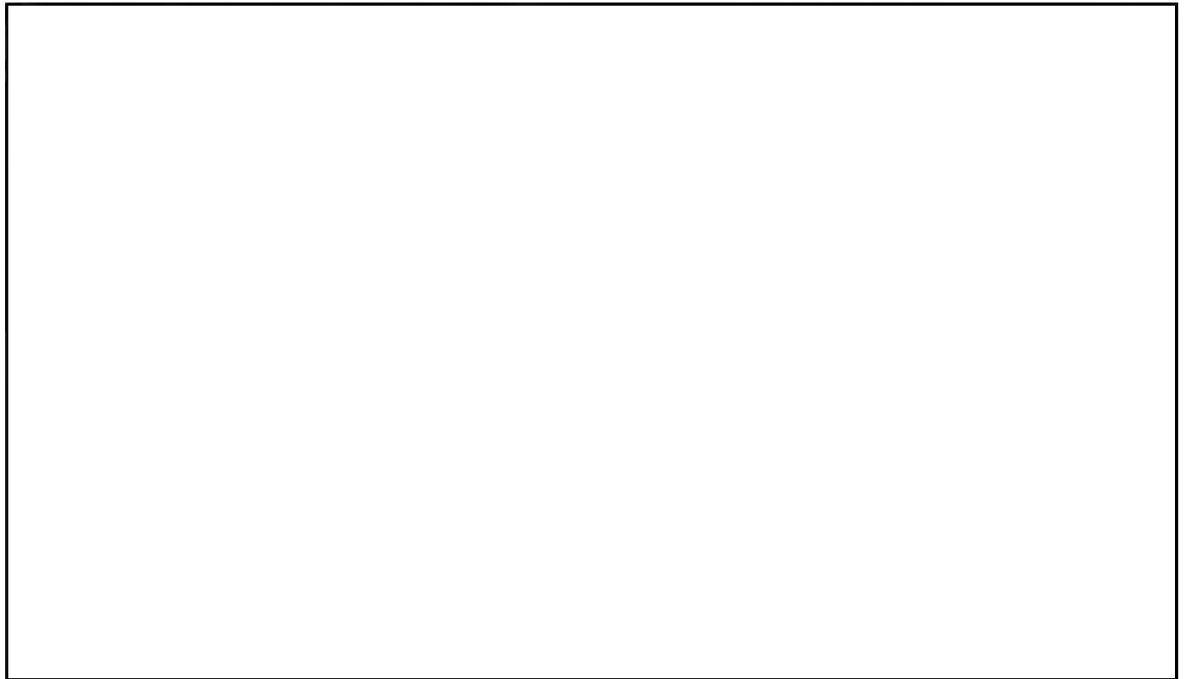
Briefs and Comments

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Zaire: *Security Concerns* 6

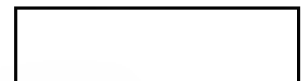
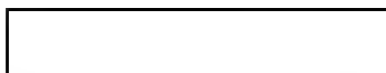
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The Overnight Reports, printed on yellow paper as the final section of the Daily, will often contain material that updates the Situation Reports and Briefs and Comments.

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ZAIRE: Security Concerns

President Mobutu has grown increasingly concerned over possible threats to Zaire's security and has had his armed forces on nationwide alert since last weekend. Mobutu is worried that the worsening economic situation will spark spontaneous civil disturbances, but his main apprehension is over possible moves by dissident groups.

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Belgium is planning to send paratroopers to Zaire to train the Zairian Army and to protect whites in the Kinshasa area in the event of disturbances. The paratroopers will be stationed at Kitona. The Belgian move probably also is intended to allay Mobutu's suspicions that Brussels is involved with the MARC dissidents, whose headquarters is in Brussels.

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Meanwhile, a Cuban diplomat told a Belgian official on Wednesday that there were "many indications something could happen" in Zaire next week. The Belgians said this was the first time the Cubans had ever approached them on African security matters. Cuba's image in Africa suffered as the result of reports that Cuban advisers helped prepare Katangan rebels for their invasions of Shaba Region, and Havana may be particularly anxious to disassociate itself in advance from any impending moves by Zairian dissidents.

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OVERNIGHT REPORTS

(The items in the Overnight Reports section have not been coordinated within the intelligence community. They are prepared overnight by the Office of Current Operations with analyst comment where possible from the production offices of NFAC.)

Iran

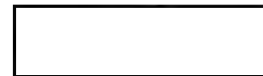
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The US Embassy in Tehran reports that fighting erupted again this morning between pro-Khomeini Air Force personnel and Army forces at Dowshan Tappeh airbase in east Tehran. [REDACTED] The renewed violence occurred when families of base personnel tried to enter the base, touching off more pro-Khomeini demonstrations. At last report heavy firing had been taking place for over two hours, several buildings ransacked, and a large number of Air Force personnel had been killed. A senior Iranian Air Force officer said he expected the fighting would get more serious as the day wore on. An estimated 75 to 100 American military and civilian personnel are believed to be on the airbase but we do not know their status. One US newspaper correspondent was wounded in the fighting and is reported to have died from his wounds. [REDACTED]

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Saudi Arabia - Egypt

The US Liaison Office in Riyadh reports that the rejection by Egyptian President Sadat of the latest Saudi offer to contribute \$525 million toward the Egyptian purchase of US-built F-5 fighters may further impede any improvements in Saudi-Egyptian relations. The new offer, a \$175 million increase over previous Saudi proposals, comes at a time when the Saudi Government is attempting to decrease its own expenditures by 30 percent, and should be considered a major achievement given the continued coolness in Saudi-Egyptian relations. The Liaison Office concludes that the preemptory rejection of the F-5 package by Sadat will not only make the Saudis cool to further consideration of the F-5 program but may cause Riyadh to waiver in its support of other Egyptian financial assistance programs. Additionally, it will be increasingly difficult to obtain any substantial Saudi support for further Egyptian moves in the Middle East peace process.



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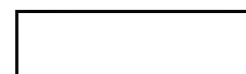
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USSR - West Germany

According to the US Embassy in Moscow, the Soviet press has recently published two strong criticisms of antidetente tendencies in West Germany, breaking a virtual year-long truce on attacks on Bonn. The Embassy says Soviet concerns have apparently been aroused by evolving West German attitudes toward SALT III and "gray area" weapons systems and, more specifically, by discussions of the possible deployment in West Germany of medium-range missiles capable of striking the USSR. West German officials believe the timing of the articles is related to an internal defense policy debate in Bonn regarding West Germany's position on arms control negotiations with the East and the development of advanced weapons systems for deployment in Western Europe. 

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